

**State Legislative Status Report
2007 Special Health Care Session
October 24, 2007**

Note: Status information reflects information available as of 10/23/07.

†ABX1 1 (Nunez) Health Care Reform

Version: Introduced 9/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: In Print

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact comprehensive health care reform.

†ABX1 2 (Nunez) Health care reform

Version: Introduced 9/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: In Print

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact comprehensive health care reform.

†ABX1 3 (Dymally) Health care coverage

Version: Introduced 9/13/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: To Print

This bill makes various findings regarding health care coverage and MRMIP, and declares the intent of the Legislature to enact reform legislation that ensures coverage for all individuals regardless of their medical history. This may include, among other things, reform of the private individual health insurance market and full funding for MRMIP.

†ABX1 4 (Nakanishi) Income tax: health savings accounts

Version: Introduced 09/18/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: To Print

This bill would allow a deduction in connection with health savings accounts in conformity with federal law. This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy. However, the provisions of this bill would not become operative until January 1, 2008.

†**ABX1 5 (Nakanishi)** Income and corporation taxes: credits: health savings accounts

Version: Introduced 09/18/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: To Print

This bill would authorize a credit against various taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2013, in an amount equal to 15% of the amount paid or incurred by a qualified taxpayer. This bill would also require the Franchise Tax Board and the Legislative Analyst to report on the usage and effectiveness of the credit, as specified.

†**ABX1 6 (Nakanishi)** Physician assistants: educational loan program

Version: Introduced 09/18/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: To Print

This bill would create the California Physician Assistant Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program within the foundation to provide scholarships to physician assistant students and to repay qualifying educational loans of physician assistants who practice in medically underserved areas of the state and in specified clinics. Implementation would be contingent upon the availability of sufficient revenue.

†**ABX1 7 (Nakanishi)** California Major Risk Medical Insurance Program: eligibility

Version: Introduced 09/18/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: To Print

This bill would change the eligibility criteria for MRMIP by requiring rejection by at least 2 private health plans. Current law requires one rejection.

†**SBX1 1 (Perata)** Health care reform

Version: Introduced 09/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact comprehensive health care reform.

†**SBX1 2 (Perata)** Health care reform

Version: Introduced 09/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact comprehensive health care reform.

†**SBX1 3 (Hollingsworth)** Health care coverage: health savings accounts

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill declares the Legislature's intent to encourage the design of health care service plan contracts and health insurance policies that conform to existing federal requirements for high deductible health plans used in conjunction with health savings accounts.

†**SBX1 4 (Dutton)** Employment

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to provide incentives to employers who offer health insurance, flex-time work schedules, and other benefits agreed upon by employers and employees.

†**SBX1 5 (Cox)** California Children and Families Program: funding

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would eliminate allocations to various accounts used by the California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California). Those funds, with specified exceptions, would instead be allocated and appropriated to the General Fund for appropriation by the Legislature to provide health care services through other programs, including the Healthy Families Program.

†**SBX1 6 (Runner)** Hospitals: preventive medical services

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill declares the intent of the legislature to enact legislation that would allow hospitals to offer preventive medical services delivered through a hospital's primary care or community-based clinic.

†**SBX1 7 (Aanestad)** Medi-Cal: reimbursement rates

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would increase Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for providers over the next 8 years and to make it a budget priority to increase the lowest rates first.

Key: † New bill since last board meeting

*Status change since last board meeting

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†**SBX1 8 (Aanestad)** Personal income taxes

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would allow a credit to a physician in an amount equal to 50% of the fair market value of uncompensated medical care provided to an eligible individual, as defined.

†**SBX1 9 (Runner)** Medi-Cal: clinic funding

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

The Medi-Cal Hospital/Uninsured Care Demonstration Project Act revises hospital reimbursement methodologies in order to maximize the use of federal funds consistent with federal Medicaid law and stabilize the distribution of funding for hospitals. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would permit these funds to be used for the creation of new, and the expansion of existing, clinics.

†**SBX1 10 (Maldonado)** Income tax: health savings account

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would allow a deduction in connection with health savings accounts in conformity with federal law. In general, the deduction would be an amount equal to the aggregate amount paid in cash during the taxable year by, or on behalf of, an eligible individual, as defined, to a health savings account of that individual, as provided. This bill would also provide conformity to federal law with respect to treatment of the account as a tax-exempt trust, the allowance of rollovers from Archer Medical Savings Accounts to a health savings account, and related penalties.

†**SBX1 11 (Harman)** Income and corporation taxes: health savings account credit

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would authorize a tax credit for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2014. The credit would be in an amount equal to 15% of the amount paid or incurred by a qualified taxpayer during the taxable year for qualified health insurance for the taxpayer's employees. This bill would require the Legislative Analyst to report to the Legislature on or before March 1, 2013, on the effectiveness of the credit.

†**SBX1 12 (Runner)** Health care providers: incentives

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would establish incentives for health care providers, including hospitals, clinics, physician groups, physicians, health care service plans, and health insurers, that are designed to improve the quality of health and medical services for health care consumers in this state.

†**SBX1 13 (Maldonado)** Public health: loans for health care technology systems

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would require the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to establish a low-interest loan program to provide any participating health institution, health facility, hospital, long-term care facility, or licensed physician and surgeon with financing for the costs of purchasing a health care information technology system, as defined.

†**SBX1 14 (Runner)** Medi-Cal

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill states the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would realign Medi-Cal benefits to more closely resemble benefits offered through private health care coverage.

†**SBX1 15 (Cogdill)** Health facility financing: appeals procedure

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill declares the intent of the Legislature to establish an appeals procedure for health facility projects that are denied financing by the California Health Facility Financing Authority.

†**SBX1 16 (McClintock)** Out-of-state carriers

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill allows a carrier domiciled in another state to offer, sell, or renew a health care service plan contract or a health insurance policy in this state without holding a license issued by the Department of Managed Health Care or a certificate of authority issued by

the Insurance Commissioner. The bill would exempt the carrier's plan contract or policy from requirements otherwise applicable to plans and insurers providing health care coverage in this state if the plan contract or policy complies with the domiciliary state's requirements, and the carrier is lawfully authorized to issue the plan or policy in that state and to transact business there.

†**SBX1 17 (Cogdill)** Health care coverage: small-group market

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill declares the intent of the Legislature to provide incentives to improve health and wellness, as well as additional affordable health care coverage options, by allowing health care service plans and insurers greater rate flexibility in the small-group market.

†**SBX1 18 (Cogdill)** Employee health benefits: health savings accounts

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would require the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System to offer a high deductible health plan, as defined in the federal tax law, and a health savings account option to public employees and annuitants. The bill would establish the Public Employees' Health Savings Fund, a continuously appropriated trust fund, for the payment of qualified medical expenses of eligible employees and annuitants and would require those employees and annuitants, and their employers, to make specified contributions to that fund.

†**SBX1 19 (Cogdill)** Medical corporations

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would delete the prohibition on specific profession rights, and related exceptions, and would instead authorize corporations and artificial legal entities to have professional rights, privileges, or powers.

†**SBX1 20 (Runner)** Personal income taxes: primary care credit

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would allow to a primary care provider, as defined, a credit in an amount equal to 10% of the net tax, as specified.

†**SBX1 21 (Cogdill)** Personal income taxes: rural area credit

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would authorize a tax credit for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2008, in an amount equal to 25% of the tax imposed on a medical care professional who provides medical services in a rural area.

†**SBX1 22 (Battin)** For-profit clinic facility financing: revenue bonds

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would authorize the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to issue additional revenue bonds in an unspecified amount for the purpose of providing loans for the financing of construction of for-profit clinic facilities. The bill would establish the For-Profit Clinic Facility Construction Account within the CHFFA Fund for deposit of the proceeds from the issuance of these bonds, and would continuously appropriate those funds to the authority.

†**SBX1 23 (Ashburn)** Taxation: cafeteria plan credits

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would authorize a tax credit for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2007, and before January 1, 2012. The credit would be in an amount equal to 15% of the amount of administrative costs paid or incurred by a qualified taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with establishing or administering a qualified cafeteria plan that provides for the payment of health insurance premiums of the taxpayer's employees.

†**SBX1 24 (Ashburn)** Nurse practitioners: scope of practice

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would define the activities that a nurse practitioner is authorized to engage in, and would delete the requirement that the Board of Registered Nursing consult with physicians and surgeons in establishing categories of nurse practitioners.

†**SBX1 25 (Cox)** Health care coverage

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would extend the duration of the Guaranteed Issue Pilot Program from December 31, 2007 to December 31, 2010 and make an appropriation. The bill would impose a state-mandated local program by extending the requirements of the pilot program with respect to health care service plans, the violation of which would be a crime.

†**SBX1 26 (McClintock)** Insurance: multiple employer welfare arrangements (MEWAs)

Version: Introduced 10/11/07

Sponsor: Author

Status: Senate Rules Committee

This bill would allow an association that satisfies specified criteria to apply to the Department of Insurance for a certificate of compliance for a self-funded or partially self-funded MEWA by the association on or after January 1, 2008.